

Volunteer Opportunities for Families, Groups and Organizations

Sometimes it isn't possible for an individual or group to volunteer their time and services on the premises of the Rescue Mission for various reasons. However, there are several things that families, organizations and church groups can do off premise that will still serve the residents and other recipients of our organization.

- We conduct annual campaigns for **Hope Totes** for the collection of personal care and **New Underwear** for clean underwear for men, women and children living in crisis. The need for these items is throughout the year. Groups, families and individuals can collect these items and bring to the Rescue Mission. We distribute these items to our residents, guests in the Emergency Shelter and Giveaway Center and the homeless through our outreach ministry, Operation SONshine.
- Another ongoing project anyone can help with off premise is preparing sandwiches and/or lunch bags for **Operation SONshine**, the Rescue Mission's outreach ministry. A chaplain drives the Mission van to distribute a mid-day meal to the homeless, addicted and poor on the streets of Springfield. Volunteers and/or some of our residents accompany the Rescue Mission van to help with this street outreach ministry by preparing the sandwiches, soups, snacks, etc. Food items can be dropped off several days ahead of time.*
- Other ways the community can be actively involved in helping the Mission is by organizing a car wash, with proceeds going directly to the Mission; organizing a food drive; collecting cans/bottles for redemption with proceeds going to the Mission. Or you can organize a fundraiser of your own design, a dinner, etc. with proceeds going to the Mission.** Contact *Robin Gobeille* for more information on fundraising: 413-732-0808 ext. 237 or rgobeille@springfieldrescuemission.org. See the next page for more information.

All volunteer opportunities are listed on our website at www.springfieldrescuemission.org as well as our Calendar of Events.

For questions and more information, please contact Lenore Brooks, Volunteer Program Coordinator at 413-732-0808 ext. 220 or email: lbrooks@springfieldrescuemission.org.

* For all donations, a "Gift in Kind" receipt must be completed for the Missions' records and your personal tax records.

** SRM prohibits any type of raffle, lottery or gambling as this is not in keeping with the Mission's policies and Statement of Faith.

+If your church or organization would like Ron Willoughby, Executive Director, or other Rescue Mission Staff to come speak more about the Rescue Mission, please contact Lenore Brooks: 413-732-0808 ext. 220 or email: lenorebrooks@springfieldrescuemission.org.

MORE INFORMATION ON HOW YOU CAN BECOME INVOLVED

- **Provide and/or serve a regularly scheduled meal.** Prepare a meal to be placed in our cooler/freezer for future use. Or provide a lunch or dinner and serve it here! You can use our kitchen to prepare and cook or bring your meal in prepared and just reheat. This gives our Food Service and kitchen crew a much appreciated respite and our residents a treat! For more information, call the Volunteer Program Coordinator to discuss options.
- **Have a “Clean up the Community” day or week.** Pick up cans/bottles, redeem them and donate the money to the Rescue Mission. (This can garner media-attention for your group, if you desire.)
- **Hold a food/ clothing/coat drive** for the Rescue Mission. Ask people to donate non-perishable food items and gently used clothing and coats to help feed and care for the poor. (Please look at expiration dates on food items before donating)
- **Sponsor a Bake Sale** to benefit the Rescue Mission.
- **Visit the Mission**, take a tour and have lunch with the staff! Invite your church, school, business, civic organization or friend to join you. This gives you first-hand information to share with others.
- **Schedule a speaking engagement** for your church, organization, club, group, etc. to learn more about the programs, services and volunteer opportunities at the Mission.+*
- **Participate in or make sandwiches for “Operation SONshine”**, Mission street outreach to the homeless.
- **Organize a Tag Sale** and invite your friends and neighbors to participate and support the Mission.
- **Promote a Fundraiser event:** **Walk-A-Thon, Telethon, Bike-A-Thon, Bowl-A-Thon, Golf Outing, auction, sports event, penny drive, bake-off, ice cream social or entertainment event to promote and benefit the Mission. Please contact *Robin Gobeille* at 413-732-0808 ext. 237 or rgobeille@springfieldrescuemission.org to discuss your ideas.
- **Volunteer your services** in reaching out to those living in crisis. Let the Rescue Mission know of your gifts, talents and times available.
- **Help the Staff** find appropriate **employment opportunities** for the Program’s graduating residents.
- **Encourage others to pray for and financially support** this 125+ year old Human Services Agency.
- **Pray** for those who will benefit by your act of love, compassion and selflessness.

